

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-21 : (Canceled)

Claim 22 : (New) In a telecommunications network, a route object (RO) computer program product, comprising: means for creating the RO which presents a user with editable fields relating to more than one type of the RO, and allows the user to specify contents of at least one of the fields to create any one of the types of the RO.

Claim 23 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 22, in which the RO presents the at least one editable field relating to a type of route defined by the RO.

Claim 24 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 22, in which the RO presents at least one editable field relating to at least one network element (NE) of a route through the telecommunications network defined by the RO.

Claim 25 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 22, in which each type of RO comprises at least one hop, and the RO computer program product presents at least one editable field relating to the at least one hop of the RO.

Claim 26 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 22, in which, when the user specifies the contents of the at least one editable field, at least one of the specified field and the specified contents is used by the RO computer program product to determine which subsequent editable field is presented to the user.

Claim 27 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 22, in which, when the user specifies the contents of the at least one editable field, at least one of the specified field and the specified contents is used by the RO computer program product to determine at least one default setting of at least one subsequent editable field presented to the user.

Claim 28 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 22, and comprising means for modifying at least one RO.

Claim 29 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 22, and comprising means for copying at least one RO.

Claim 30 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 22, and comprising means for storing at least one RO in a storage facility.

Claim 31 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 22, and comprising means for deleting at least one RO.

Claim 32 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 22, and comprising means for discovering at least one RO.

Claim 33 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 22, and comprising means for discovering changes in the telecommunications network.

Claim 34 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 22, and comprising means for interfacing with the user.

Claim 35 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 34, in which the means for interfacing presents a same interface to the user regardless of the type of the RO to be created.

Claim 36 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 34, in which the means for interfacing comprises a graphical user interface (GUI) which presents at least one window to the user, to allow the user to create the RO.

Claim 37 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 36, in which the GUI presents a network element (NE) listing window to the user which comprises a NE context menu having a create RO menu item which brings up a window comprising a RO creation dialog box, which comprises at least one editable field relating to at least one type of RO, and the user specifies the contents of at least one of the fields to create any one of the types of RO.

Claim 38 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 36, in which the RO being created comprises at least one hop, and the at least one hop is added to the RO using a window comprising a hop creation dialog box, which comprises at least one editable field relating to at least one type of hop, and the user specifies the contents of at least one of the fields to create any one of the types of hop.

Claim 39 : (New) The RO computer program product according to claim 36, in which the RO being created comprises a group RO, and the GUI presents a network element (NE) listing window to the user which comprises a NE context menu having a create group RO menu item which brings up a window comprising a group RO creation dialog box, which comprises at least one editable field relating to at least one type of group RO, and the user specifies the contents of at least one of the fields to create any one of the types of group RO.

Claim 40 : (New) A method of creating a route object (RO), comprising the steps of: running a RO computer program product which creates the RO which

presents editable fields relating to more than one type of the RO; and specifying contents of at least one of the fields to create any one of the types of the RO.

Claim 41 : (New) A network management system (NMS), comprising: a route object (RO) computer program product including means for creating the RO which presents a user with editable fields relating to more than one type of the RO, and allows the user to specify contents of at least one of the fields to create any one of the types of the RO.

Claim 42 : (New) A method of setting up a connection of a telecommunications network, comprising the steps of: using a route object (RO) created using a RO computer program product operative for creating the RO, and presenting a user with editable fields relating to more than one type of the RO, and allowing the user to specify contents of at least one of the fields to create any one of the types of the RO.